

PART 504 - SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS, STUDIES AND REPORTS

SUBPART E - FLOOD REPORTS

PA504.42

\$PA504.40 General

Since the Water Resources Program in Pennsylvania is concerned with floodwater damages, it is imperative that continuing records be kept of flood-producing storms. Flood reports can provide such a record, relating rainfall amounts to associated damages, thus providing a constantly improving basis for planning and design. For emergency situations, the procedures found in the Emergency Watershed Protection Guide shall be followed.

\$PA504.41 Scope

Flood reports will be prepared for all flood-producing storms in Pennsylvania. A flood-producing storm is defined as one which produces measurable damages, or would have produced measurable damages in the absence of an SCS flood control project. These reports will include, but not be limited to, the following watersheds:

- (a) Completed P. L. 566 watersheds (see O&M requirements).
- (b) P. L. 566 watersheds in the operation phase.
- (c) Watersheds that are being planned under P. L. 566.
- (d) Principal streams or creeks that may have a potential for P. L. 566 watershed consideration (watershed 250,000 acres or less).
- (e) Watersheds containing RC&D structures (see O&M requirements).
- (f) Important, completed structural measures in urban areas.
- (g) Other watersheds where significant farmland or urban areas are flooded.

\$PA504.42 Assignment

Reports shall be submitted through the applicable area conservationist to the State Conservation Engineer. The government representative will prepare an initial report on all P. L. 566 and RC&D jobs under construction. The district conservationist will prepare an initial

PA504-15

\$PA504.42

report on all other flood-producing storms in the field office and submit it to the area conservationist. One copy of a final report for all floods will be prepared and submitted to the State Conservation Engineer by the applicable area conservationist with the assistance of their engineering staff.

\$504.43 Procedures

(a) The initial report will be prepared within five (5) working days after the flood crest and will include the following items:

- (1) The name of the watershed or stream.
- (2) The date and time of flood.
- (3) The amount of recorded rainfall and the duration of the storm (use and identify any available data).

(b) The final report will be prepared within ten (10) working days after the flood crest and will include the following items:

- (1) The name of the watershed or stream.
- (2) Date of flood.
- (3) Accumulated rainfall for the continuous period up to the time of peak flooding.
- (4) Designate, if possible, the beginning time and duration of rainfall.
- (5) Highest water level in any reservoir behind a P. L. 566 or RC&D flood prevention structure with reference to the normal water level, or emergency spillway crest and approximate time period of flood storage. Since SCS personnel may not be at the reservoir during the peak, review area for debris along dam breast or shoreline which may indicate the highest water level. Watershed inches of runoff stored in P. L. 566 or RC&D structure should be noted.
- (6) List damages such as acres flooded and structural damage (bridges, buildings, highways, utilities, loss of life, etc.).
- (7) Take photographs that show high water elevations, flooding damage, and other related conditions of importance. The photographs will be developed immediately and submitted with the report.
- (8) Damage to completed Inventory-sized structures (see O&M Agreement).
- (9) News coverage will be submitted as outlined.